system (PDS) have been increased with effect from 1-2-1994 as under :

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	Central Issue Price (ex-FCI godown)		Increase per quintal
	Prior to 1-2-1994	from 1-2-1994	
Wheat	330.00	402.00	72.00
Rice : Common	437.00	537.00	100.00
Fine	487.00	617.00	120.00
Superfine	518.00	648.00	130.00

(d) and (e) Central Government bears the burden of a huge amount of food subsidy for making available foodgrains under PDS and other welfare schemes, viz. RPDS/ ITDP etc.

In order to keep the open market prices of wheat and rice at reasonable level, the Food Corporation of India have undertaken open sale of wheat and rice from the Central Pool. This has had a sobering effect on the open market prices of these commodities.

Amendment of Warehouse Corporation Act

1609. SHRI SOM PAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 3332 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th December, 1993 and state :

(a) what are the major considerations for amending the Warehouse Corporation Act, 1962 and what are the salient features of the proposed Bill, and

(b) when the new bill is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) One of the objectives behind the proposed amendments to the Warehousing Corporations Act is to facilitate the re-organisation of the Board of Directors of the Central Warehousing Corporation with a view, inter-alia, to provide greater representation to professional bodies and other interested sections like farmers etc. Another amendment will facilitate the setting up of warehouses abroad by the Central Warehousing Corporation, to help in our exports. Certain other amendments are also proposed which would facilitate the smooth functioning of the Central Warehousing Corporation and of the State Warehousing Corporations.

(b) The proposed amendments will be effected after necessary administrative formalities for amending the said Act have been completed.

भारतीय खाद्य निगम में अस्थायी श्रमिकों को नियमित किया जाना

1610. **श्री मूल चन्द सीणा** : क्या **खाद्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गोदामों और अन्य स्थानों पर तैनात अस्थायी श्रमिकों का राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इन श्रमिकों को नियमित करने की नीति/मानदण्ड क्या हैं; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों में कितने श्रमिकों को नियमित करने की बजाय सेवा से निकाल दिया गया ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्प नाथ राय) : (क) भारतीय खाद्य निगम के खाद्यान्नों को हैंडल करने के लिए लगाए गए श्रमिकों की संख्या काम की मात्रा पर